

Statement of Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
August 2, 2006

Today I read the media report indicating that the tragedy surrounding the death of good Samaritan Frank Moore II was compounded greatly by the fact that Milwaukee police and the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office dropped the ball and failed to file charges in an earlier case, thereby allowing Mr. Moore's killer to roam free when he clearly should have been locked up. Most disturbing to me is the revelation that the person who witnessed Mr. Moore's killer trying to burglarize her home did her very best to be proactive and to give authorities everything they needed to put the killer behind bars in the days before the shooting, yet that case somehow slipped through the cracks, leaving her to wonder if she had done enough to somehow prevent the tragic series of events from unfolding.

It's not her fault, and today I am calling on Police Chief Nannette Hegerty to conduct a thorough investigation to find out what happened in the earlier case that kept this killer on the streets when he should have been in jail. I'm also asking District Attorney E. Michael McCann to do the same hard fact-finding over at the Courthouse.

In many neighborhoods, Milwaukee citizens are – unfortunately – already leery of cooperating with police and are hesitant to share information. Sadly, they are scared to death of becoming victims themselves. But, as public officials we are sworn to protect our citizens, and we must find a way to restore some measure of trust in our law enforcement agencies. To honor Frank Moore's life, we must find out how his tragic death could and should have been prevented.

Lastly, Frank was a friend of mine and a neighbor. But most importantly, Frank was an irreplaceable father in the community in which I live. As the information is gathered in this investigation, heads need to roll.

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